



Early Childhood Development

The mandate of the **Centre of Excellence for Early Childhood Development** (CEECD) is to foster the dissemination of the best knowledge on the social and emotional development of young children and on the policy and services that influence this development. The CEECD gives access to the latest knowledge available in the world to a variety of publics in formats and in languages adapted to their needs.

Key Messages

- Between the ages of 0 and 5, children experience a phase of accelerated growth. The education, care and attention they receive during this crucial period of development have a decisive effect on their future.
- It is extremely important for service providers, planners and policy makers to thoroughly understand the significance of early childhood to ensure that young children's social and emotional needs are fulfilled.
- Governments and communities need to invest in the early years, and they need to invest wisely in the best practices, programs, services and policies.

Key Successes

Creation of the Encyclopedia on Early Childhood Development, available for free on internet. This Encyclopedia is compiling the best research on developmental and service issues with a synthesized summary of each issue, including the significance of the issue, up-to-date information and what can be done to improve services and policies. The Encyclopedia's website hits are more than 4 million per year. Services providers, parents, students and policy makers throughout the world use that information.

This Centre is a close partner of the Early Childhood Development Knowledge Mobilisation Working Group, a federal/provincial/territories association.